

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF OHIO COM- MODORES

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate the Association of Ohio Commodores. Celebrating their 40th anniversary this year, the association has traveled the globe as Ohio's preeminent ambassadors to international commerce.

Founded in 1966 by Governor James A. Rhodes in honor of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, the hero of the Battle of Lake Erie, the Ohio Commodores have served various missions around the world as official representatives of the State. From the Japanese Ambassador and the Governor of Ohio's sister province in Korea, to the Consul Generals of Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina, they have acted as the official hosts to foreign dignitaries visiting Ohio.

Since its inception, the association has invited over 300 men and women to join the ranks of Commodores. Considered Ohio's "most distinguished honor," government officials, lawmakers, leaders in higher education, and business leaders have all been recognized for their contributions to the economic strength of the State.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and congratulation of the Association of Ohio Commodores, which has dedicated the past four decades to honor the finest Ohioans and ensure a bright future for the Buckeye State.

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DANIEL SKINKIS

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Daniel Skinkis for more than two decades of volunteer work in Southern Nevada.

Daniel Skinkis has founded several outreach programs over the past 22 years and speaks publicly each week at homeless shelters to help addicted and disenfranchised members of society turn their lives around. From 1988 to 1993, Mr. Skinkis ran a private fellowship in Henderson, NV, for young people with addictions, called Witness Outreach. In addition, Mr. Skinkis started Desert Homeless Outreach over 20 years ago as a place where homeless people talk about issues they face and work toward resolving them. Most recently, these efforts to assist the homeless community have earned Mr. Skinkis the prestigious Jefferson Award bestowed by the American Institute for Public Service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Daniel Skinkis for his admirable work with the com-

munity in an effort to enrich the lives of disenfranchised and impoverished people. I wish him the best in his future efforts.

### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM MOCK

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William Mock, who has been named Historian of the Year by the Bedford County Historical Society. Bill, a Vietnam veteran and retired biology teacher from Bedford County, will be honored with this distinguished award at the Bedford County Historical Society's annual banquet in April.

Bedford County is an area rich with historical value and meaning, dating back to the revolutionary era. Bill has worked to promote it by proposing the establishment of a Bedford County historical center to exhibit historical records and artifacts from the area. As he often says of himself, Bill lives in the past. His love of history has propelled him to take on many meaningful, honorable activities to commemorate our Nation's heroes and ensure they are never forgotten.

A member of the Bedford County Historical Society, the Gettysburg Blues and the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War Gettysburg Camp No. 112, Bill takes immense pride in working with these organizations to preserve our Nation's history. He planned and executed the rededication of the Pennsylvania Monument in Andersonville National Cemetery for its 100th anniversary. To mark the occasion, Bill spent months researching and fundraising to reproduce the 138th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regimental flag, which he carried in the March of Honor to the monument.

William Mock's dedication to the preservation of our local and national history is admirable, and we can hope that others will follow in his footsteps and view our history with the same pride and honor as those that came before us.

### SWEARING-IN "DAISY" WITH THE LEWISVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Daisy, the most recent member of the Lewisville Fire Department in North Texas. Daisy is a 1½ year old yellow lab that was previously under the training of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. She has achieved a reputation within the community as a very capable instrument in the detection of explosives.

Daisy and Division Chief Terry McGrath trained together for ten straight weeks in Virginia. This training consisted of various conditioning and learning skills that trained both Daisy and her handler. The two were educated in the many different scenarios that could very well be encountered in the line of duty. Daisy is trained to recognize 18,000 different scents that may be linked to explosive devices.

The Lewisville Fire Department was contacted by an ATF agent in the Dallas Regional Office to see if they would participate in the program and would welcome Daisy as a valuable member of the force. Needless to say, they were more than thrilled with the opportunity to be able to provide a highly trained dog like Daisy for the safety of the entire North Texas region.

I am pleased to join in with the rest of the Lewisville Fire Department in welcoming Daisy as their latest member. Her devotion to her handler, the department and the safety of the public makes her an invaluable asset to the community.

### HONORING THE OAKTON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Oakton High School Cougars football team, who won the 2005 Virginia High School League Group AAA, Division 6 State Championship.

On Saturday, December 10, 2005 at Darling Stadium in Hampton, the Cougars all but shut down the Landstown Eagle's infamous passing game, accumulating 401 total rushing yards against the Eagles' defense.

Led by head coach, Joe Thompson, and his assistant coaching staff, David Foley, John Gluffing, Tom Goggins, Bryan Gordon, J.J. Hetman, Brent Newell, Kolapo Olarinde, Pat Purcell, Jason Rowley, Donny Samson, Rick Wells, Joe Drewer and Packy Purcell, the Cougars trained intensively throughout a dramatic and triumphant season. The Cougars dedication and teamwork culminated in their 28-7 state title victory, the first in Oakton High School's history.

I congratulate all the talented members of the Virginia High School League Group AAA, Division 6 State Champion Cougars: Keith Payne, Thomas Rupp, Michael Lee, Handel Stephen-Dowd, Ervin Gamer, Adrien Laffitte-Smith, Donald Murphy, Brian Sweeny, Aaron Dishner, Stephen Poumaras, Mark Davis, Curtis Eward, Bradley Rhodes, Kumail Baig, Kevin Houghton, Derek Zimmerman, Tyler Morris, Ilyas Karimov, Sean Purcell, Erich Kottke, Alex Wargo, Connor Madden, David Kidwell, Trey Watts, Peyton Mahaffey, David Shumway, Dylan Grimm, Justin White, John

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